GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1212
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Facilities for the Differently Abled Persons
Sharma Shri Jugal Kishore

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities being provided to differently abled people at railway stations and trains along with details of different category of railway stations;
(b) whether Railways proposes to develop "B" category stations in the whole country into differently abled people friendly stations;
(c) if so, the details of the stations identified for this purpose, zone-wise;
(d) whether escalators/lifts are being installed at the railway stations all over the country for easy approach to the footover bridges for senior citizens; and
(e) if so, the number of stations where these facilities have been provided upto now, zone-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1212 BY SHRI JUGAL KISHORE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.11.2016 REGARDING FACILITIES FOR THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS

(a) to (e): Improvement/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for differently abled passengers is a continuous process. In order to provide better accessibility to passengers with disabilities, short term facilities as detailed below have been planned at all stations, beginning with 'A-1', 'A' & 'B' category stations:-
â€¢ Standard ramp for barrier free entry
â€¢ Earmarking at least two parking lots
â€¢ Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building
â€¢ Signages of appropriate visibility
â€¢ At least one toilet (on the ground floor)
â€¢ At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons
â€¢ 'May I help you' Booth

In addition, long term facilities, as detailed below, have also been planned at 'A-1', 'A' & 'B' category stations:-
â€¢ Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer
â€¢ Engraving on edges of platform

Zone-wise details of 'A-1', 'A' & 'B' category stations are appended.
Instructions also exist for provision of Wheel Chair at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Moreover, Zonal Railways have been authorized to introduce 'Battery Operated Vehicles' at major Railway Stations for Disabled, Old Aged and sick passengers on first come first served basis.
Indian Railways have manufactured about 3450 SLRD/SRD coaches (SLRD-Second Class Cum Luggage Cum Guard Van & Disabled friendly compartment, SRD- Second Class Cum Guard Van & Disabled friendly compartment) which have a suitably designed compartment & toilet adapted to the needs of disabled/wheel chair borne passengers. In SLRD coaches, wider entrance door for wheel chair borne passengers, wider berths, wider compartments, space for provision of Wheel chair, larger lavatory and lavatory doors have been provided. Inside the toilets, additional grab rails on the side walls for support, wash basin and mirror at lower height have provided. It is endeavored to have at least one such coach in each Mail/Express train.
Further, the fully air conditioned Garib Rath trains have been provided with an Air conditioned disabled friendly compartment & toilets in the power cars. For assistance to visually impaired travelers, Braille signages are now being provided in newly manufactured coaches.
In order to facilitate easy movement of elderly and differently abled passengers, as per the existing guidelines, 'A-1' category stations qualify for provision of escalators/elevators while 'A' category, 'C' category and stations of tourist importance qualify for provision of escalators under 'Desirable Amenities'. So far, 316 no. of escalators at 129 stations & 178 no. of lifts at 79 stations have been provided across Indian Railways. Provision of lifts and escalators at stations is a continuous process and is done as per need, priority of work and availability of funds. The zone-wise details of stations where lifts and escalators have been provided are appended.
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